# Delivering Prenatal Care in a Rural Oregon Health System:

An Implementation Case Study to Improve Rural Family Health

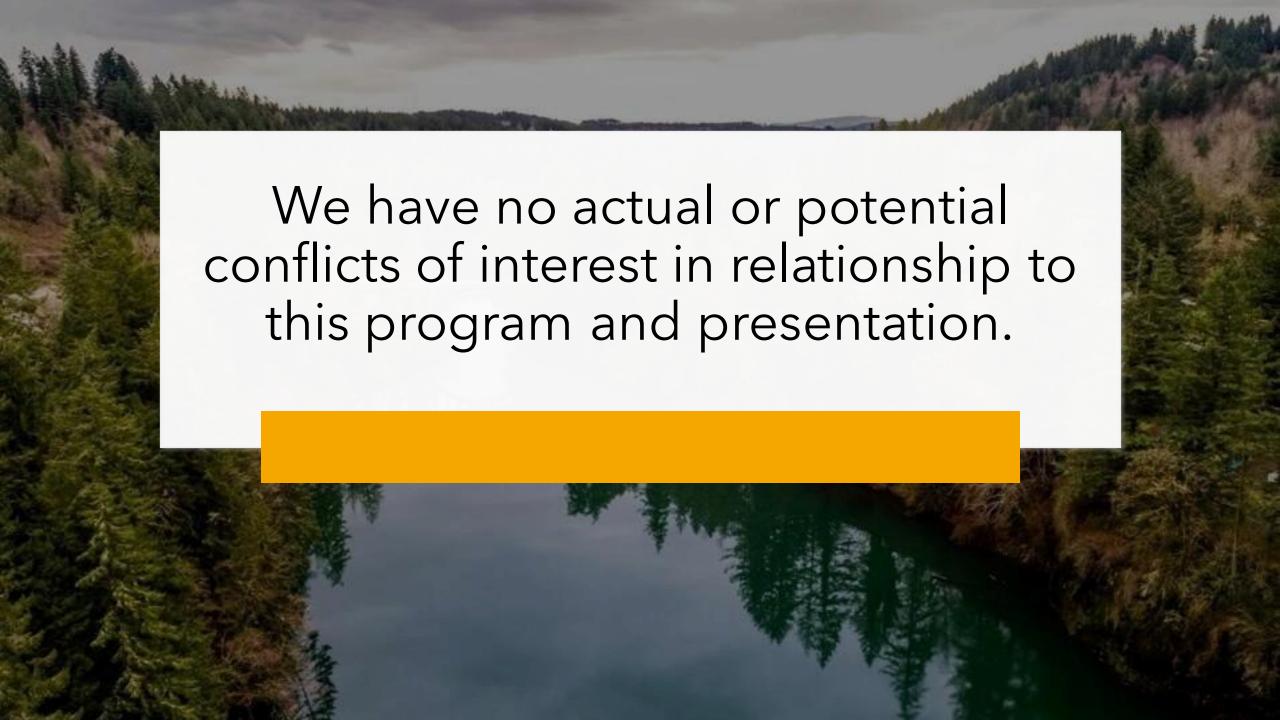
Candice Hunter, FNP
Sara Mitenbuler, DNP
lvy Seaburg, DNP
Orchid Health 2023



#### Objectives

- ➤ Define key components required for replicability of an evidence guided prenatal care program for a rural family medicine clinic.
- ➤ Identify regional partnership opportunities for collaboration and referral to deliver prenatal, postpartum, and early pediatric care to rural families.
- ➤ Outline possible practice barriers to the implementation of a full scope family medicine practice and identify a way to overcome such barriers.





#### What are we being faced with?

 Low access to appropriate preventive, prenatal and postpartum care is defined as counties with one or fewer hospitals or birth centers that provide obstetric care, few obstetric providers (fewer than 60 per 10,000 births, that's us here in Estacada).

#### In a Country Known for Poor Maternal Health Outcomes, Rural Communities Fare Worse

More than

of rural counties have no hospital-based obstetrical services

It's not just a rural problem:

3 women in metropolitan or urban areas lives in an OB desert.







#### Pregnant and parenting people in rural communities have worse outcomes than those living in other areas.

Rural residents have 9% greater probability of severe maternal morbidity and mortality

Rural hospitals report higher rates of postpartum hemorrhage and blood transfusion during labor and delivery than do urban hospitals.

More than 50% of rural women, compared to 7% of urban women, must travel more than 30 minutes to reach the nearest hospital with obstetric services.

Extensive travel may contribute to increased risks of infant mortality and pregnancy complications.

#### Rural women of color are at particular risk.

American Indian/Native Alaskan and Black women are two to three times more likely to die

from pregnancy-related causes than white women.

In the past decade, rural counties with a higher proportion of non-Hispanic Black women were more likely

#### to lose obstetric services

than other rural counties.

Source: Martha Hostetter and Sarah Klein, "Restoring Access to Maternity Care in Rural America," Transforming Care (newsletter), Commonwealth Fund, September 30, 2021. https://doi.org/10.26099/CYCC-FF50



#### What now?

- Preconception care & Prenatal visits for low risk women
  - Physical exams, health maintenance screening, and risk screening questionnaires
  - Lab work: blood typing, diabetes screening, genetic screening
  - Anticipatory counseling (birth plan, lactation counseling, genetics)
  - Referrals for ultrasounds & specialty services
  - Postpartum care and contraceptive management
  - Newborn and well child care



#### Limitations

No deliveries

High risk pregnancies

Abortions

# Clinic Staff Roles



## Patient Support Staff

Knowledge of overall prenatal workflow

Know talking points around prenatal care at Orchid

Appointment scheduling

Appropriate triage directing



# Referrals coordinators and medical records

- Knowledge of workflow and timelines around ultrasounds and referral to specialist and/or delivering provider
- Knowledge of workflow and timelines of documents & medical records

### Medical Assistants



Rooming, knowledge of workflow



Documentation, labs, and screeners for interval visits



See MA Standard of Care Document for extensive details

#### Registered Nurse

- This role is still in development
- Future roles: prenatal and postpartum patient education, lactation support and education, gestational diabetes education



# Community Health Worker

- Help reduce barriers to care and help reduce social disparities.
- Support with workplace environment: FMLA/OFLA, familiarization with Lactation laws
- Help enroll in WIC
- Address positive SDOH
- Identify supportive social services: birthing classes, local doulas, car seat programs



#### Behavioral Health Worker

 Support for women with chronic disease, emotional concerns, and behavioral changes. Help support pregnant women's mental health, IPV, and SUD.



# Medical Director

- Oversight
- Guidance and direction of program
- Support prenatal providers



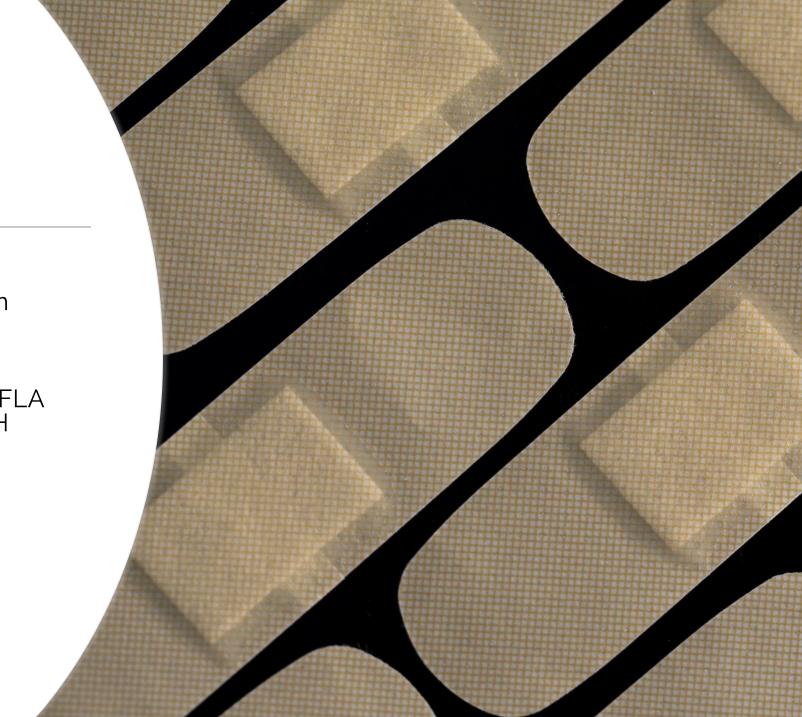
# Prenatal provider

- Care and screenings before pregnancy
- Complete prenatal care for mom and baby
- Prenatal screening and ultrasound
- Nutritional counseling and guidance
- Follow-up care including birth control, education/counseling, and postpartum care



### Wrap around care

- Behavioral health providers
  - Mental health, IPV, Postpartum depression
- Community Health Worker
   WIC, assistance with FMLA/OFLA forms, dental resources, SDOH support, financial resources
- Registered nurse
  - Prenatal education, nutrition education, lactation support



### Rate of attrition

• Graph here

## Percent of patient population served

# Accomplishments

- Over 20 families served, to date
- · Enriched our medical home model
- Relationships with delivering groups
- Reduced family financial burden
- Networking with local doula groups
- Provider training at OHSU
- Bedside ultrasound

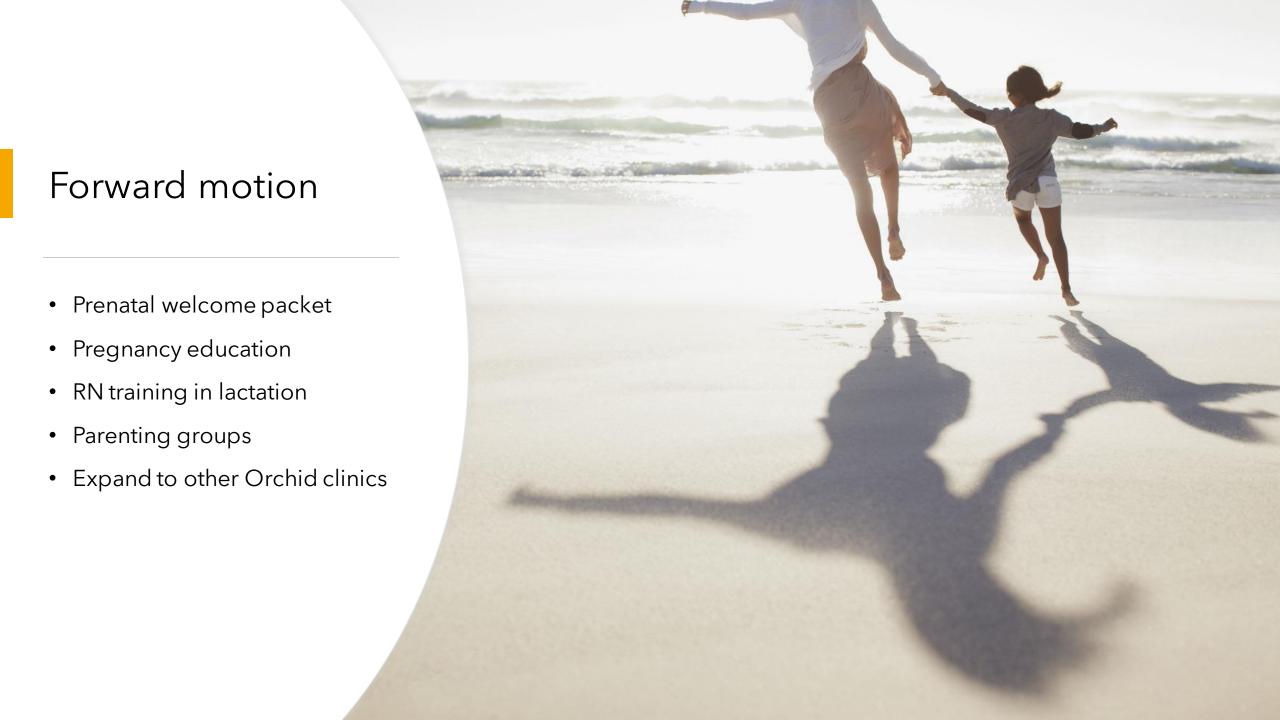
#### Obstacles

- Provider capacity
- Marketing
- Legacy Labor and Delivery Unit
- Labs maternal and neonatal



# Stories from families





## Orchid Health's focus & philosophy







**Our Vision** 

Healthy Rural Communities. Healthcare Revolutionized.

#### Our Mission

To advance a new model for community health to thrive based on relationships, joy in work, and health equity.



#### Our Compass

Our Core Values

Challenge the Status Quo
Cultivate Respect

Be Courageously Vulnerable
and Accountable



#### Our Flywheel

#### Our Four Pillars

- 1 Employee Well-Being
- 2 Trusting Patient Relationships
- 3 Community Health
- 4 Financial Sustainability & Growth

